

November 18, 2002

Federal Communications Commission

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing in response to your proposed rule which would serve to weaken the current law in our state, Indiana, regarding solicitation for business by telemarketers (otherwise known as rude, life-disrupting businesses).

Since Indiana has enacted its telemarketing limitation list for which my family signed up our evenings have been enjoyable once again. We were amazed at the difference it made in our home life, and I am not exaggerating one bit. It was only after the calls stopped coming that we realized how disruptive the telemarketing calls had been.

We had been receiving one to two calls per evening which not only interrupted whatever we were doing at the time – eating dinner, reading, watching t.v., sleeping, basically enjoying the few uninterrupted hours we have together during a day – but also served to sour our mood for the majority of the remaining part of the evening. The calls are UNWANTED!! It is such a relief to answer the phone in the evening confident that it's a call from someone who matters in our lives, not from someone trying to make some money off of us.

Prior to the effective date of Indiana's law we were answering the phone warily, forced to be rude when we don't want to be, but there was little choice, and getting back to whatever we were doing and trying to reclaim whatever mood we had going before an UNWANTED and UNINVITED phone call interrupted us. We have been on Indiana's list for just about one year now, and we just received our first commercial telemarketing call two days ago, and it was from a company with whom we had done business last year, so it couldn't really be characterized as "unsolicited". In other words, Indiana's law has been highly effective in enhancing our home life.

Our understanding is that your proposed rule is not as strict as Indiana's, that certain businesses would once again be allowed to make UNINVITED INTERRUPTIONS to our lives, and that distresses us. We would be very resentful if we had to step back in time and be at the mercy of ANY telemarketers once again. We even resent the fact that a perfectly good, effective law is being threatened and that once again our lives have to be interrupted in order to take the time to write this comment to you.

Please leave us alone and allow us to spend our FEW PRECIOUS HOURS OF FREE TIME with those we CHOOSE to spend time with.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gary and Becky Fessenden  
Granger, Indiana